

Summary

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In this issue

WHAT'S NEW IN REGIONAL STATISTICS

'What's New in Regional Statistics' is a biannual newsletter about regional and small area statistics. It includes topical articles and reviews of relevant ABS publications. 'What's New in Regional Statistics' highlights developments in statistics relevant to regions, including metropolitan, urban, non-urban and rural areas, and other information of likely interest to researchers, policy makers and other users of small area data.

Interested readers are invited to visit the [Regional Statistics theme page](#) on the ABS website for links to other related information.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

Welcome from the Director



WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR

WHAT'S NEW IN REGIONAL STATISTICS

Welcome to the latest edition of the 'What's New in Regional Statistics' newsletter.

What's in this issue?

This issue contains two feature articles. The first article, [Regional Population Growth](#) looks at population growth in 2007-08 based on the latest Estimated Resident Populations for regions of Australia. The article explores particular regions of growth and provides key findings for each state and territory.

The second article, [Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas](#) explores various characteristics of personal income in Australia, including sources of personal income and income growth rates.

Other information in this newsletter is grouped into topic headings. Under [Economy](#), key findings from the latest Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics release are presented, while [Population and People](#) includes information on the 2011 Census Local and Regional Engagement Strategy and highlights from the Statistician's Report on the Census. The [Industry](#) section includes key findings from the Australian Wine and Grape Industry publication and information papers relating to the ABS Agriculture Statistics Collection Strategy, while [Environment and Energy](#) includes a new release on Land Management and Farming in Australia.

We hope you find this newsletter interesting and informative, and we welcome your feedback and comments.

Lisa Conolly

Director
Regional Statistics Branch

Regional Population Growth



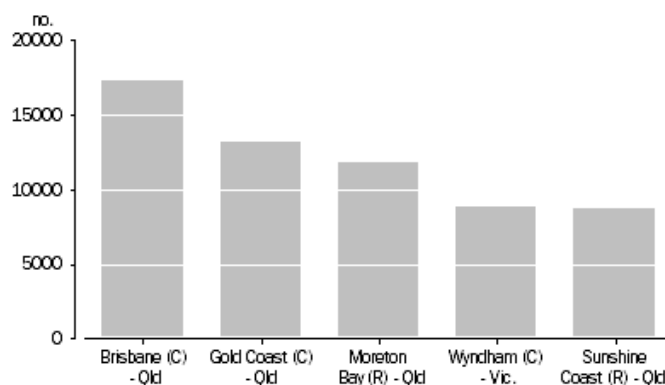
REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH

In 2007-08, population growth in Australia was most prominent in capital city areas, the outer suburbs and along the coast. This article will explore these areas of growth in further detail and provide key findings for each state and territory in Australia using the latest available Estimated Resident Populations from [Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2007-08](#) (cat. no. 3218.0), which was released on 23 April 2009.

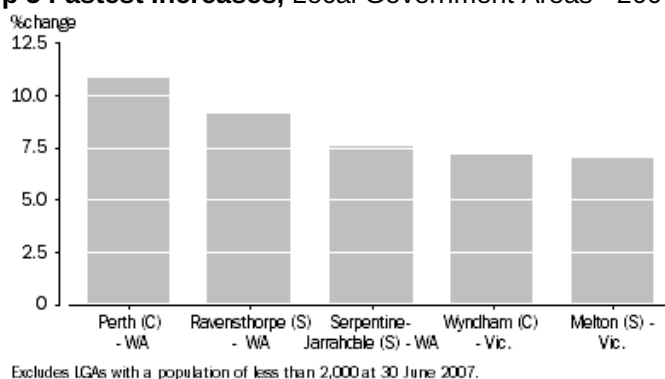
Capital cities

Growth in capital city Statistical Divisions (SDs) accounted for around two-thirds (67%) of Australia's total population growth in 2007-08. It is within these SDs that both the largest and the fastest increase in Local Government Area (LGA) populations occurred, with Brisbane (C) increasing by 17,400 people and Perth (C) growing at a rate of 10.8%.

Top 5 Largest Increases, Local Government Areas - 2007-08



Top 5 Fastest Increases, Local Government Areas - 2007-08



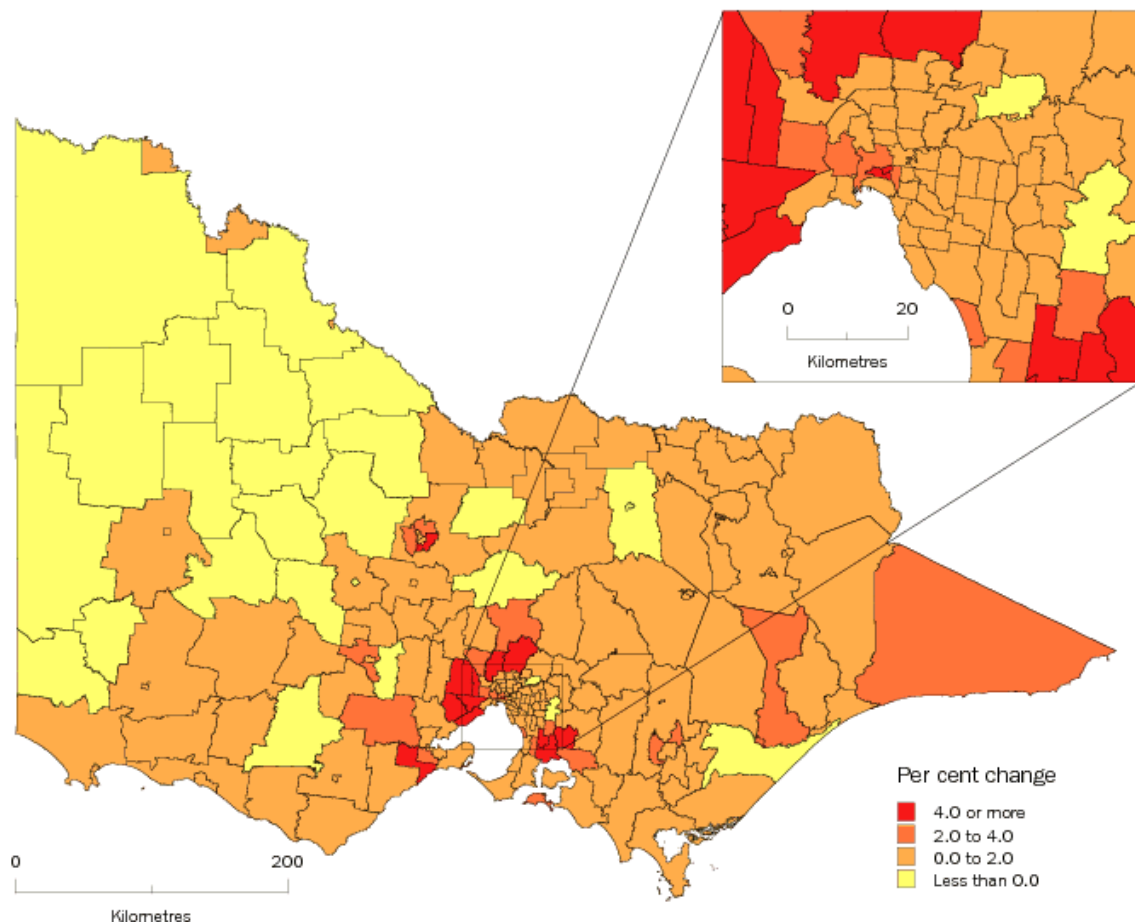
In 2007-08, Melbourne SD recorded the largest growth of all capital city SDs, increasing by 74,600 people, followed by Sydney SD (55,000), Brisbane SD and Perth SD (both up by 43,400). Darwin SD and Perth SD were the fastest growing capital city SDs, both recording population growth rates of 2.8% in 2007-08. The Greater Hobart SD had the lowest growth rate at 0.9%.

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Outer suburbs

Many LGAs which experienced large and/or rapid growth were located on or near the boundaries of capital city SDs, where land is often available for subdivision and housing development. For example, in Victoria the largest growth in the state occurred on the fringe of the Melbourne SD, with LGAs such as Wyndham (C), Casey (C) and Melton (S) each increasing in population by more than 6,000 people. The fastest growth in the state, at around 7.0%, was also experienced in Wyndham (C) and Melton (S).

SLA POPULATION CHANGE, Victoria, 2007-08

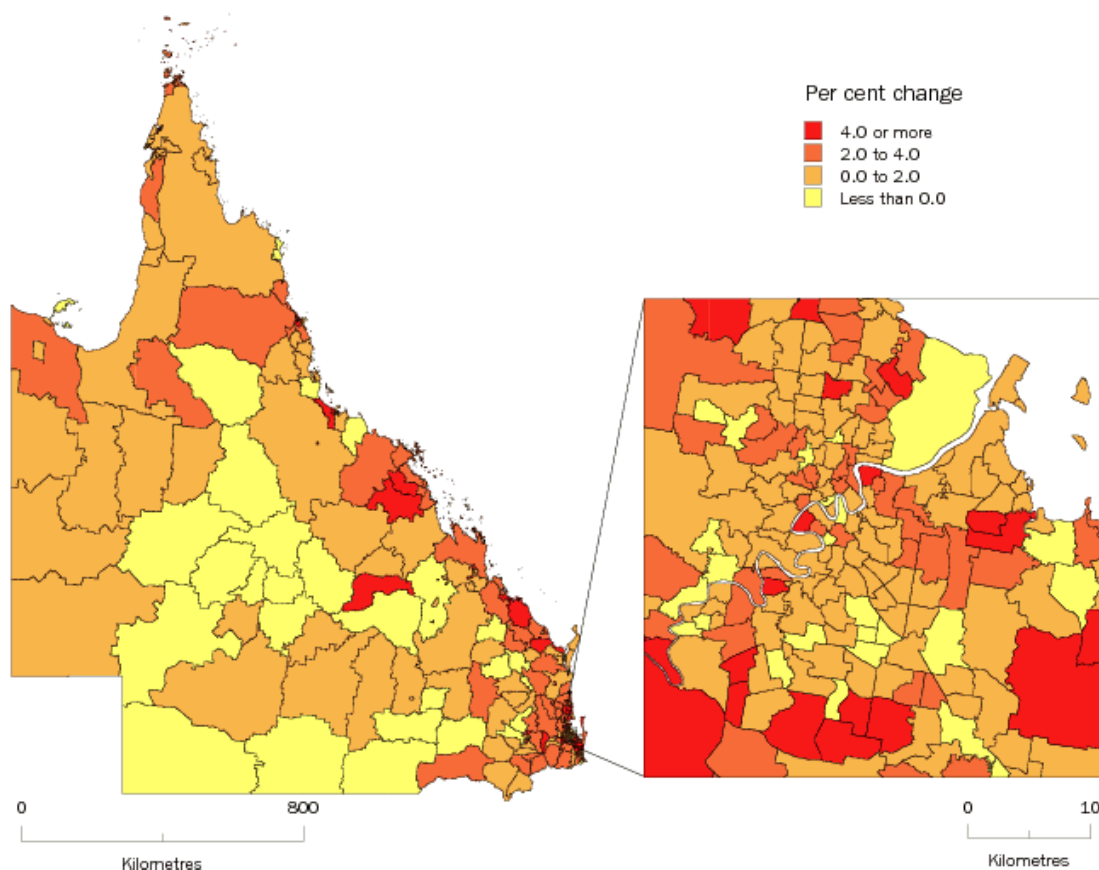


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Coastal areas

Away from capital cities, growth was generally strongest along the coast. Several LGAs on Queensland's seaboard experienced large population increases, including the Gold Coast (C) (up 13,200 people) and Sunshine Coast (C) (8,700) in the state's south-east, and Cairns (C) (6,000) and Townsville (C) (5,100) further north. These LGAs were also among the fastest growing in Queensland, particularly Cairns (C) which grew at a rate of 3.9%.

SLA POPULATION CHANGE, Queensland, 2007-08



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Within Australia's states and territories, key findings from the data include:

New South Wales

- Nine of the ten LGAs with the largest population growth in NSW were within the Sydney SD. These include Blacktown (C) (up 5,300 people), Parramatta (C) (4,000 people) and Baulkham Hills (A) (3,300 people).
- All NSW coastal LGAs outside the Sydney SD increased in population. The largest and fastest growth was in Tweed (A) (up 2,200 people or 2.6%).

Victoria

- The LGA of Wyndham (C), located on the south-western suburban fringe of Melbourne SD, experienced the largest and fastest growth (8,900 people or 7.2%) of all Victorian LGAs.
- The fastest population growth outside of the Melbourne SD continued to occur in coastal areas including the LGAs of Surf Coast (S) (3.6%) and Bass Coast (S) (2.3%).

Queensland

- The three most populous LGAs in Australia recorded the largest increases in population. Brisbane (C) increased by 17,400 people (1.7%), the Gold Coast (C) by 13,200 people (2.7%), and Moreton Bay (R) by 11,800 people (3.4%).
- Outside of south-east Queensland, the LGA of Cairns (R) had the largest and fastest population growth, with an increase of 6,000 people (3.9%).

South Australia

- Victor Harbor (C), on the southern Fleurieu Peninsula, and Mount Barker (DC), in the Mt Lofty Ranges east of Adelaide, were the two fastest-growing LGAs in SA, increasing by 3.5% and 2.9% respectively.
- The two LGAs with the largest population growth in the state were in the northern suburbs of the Adelaide SD. Salisbury (C) grew the most (2,400 people), followed by neighbouring Playford (C) (2,000 people).

Western Australia

- Five LGAs in the Perth SD each grew by more than 3,000 people. These were Wanneroo (C), Swan (C), Rockingham (C), Stirling (C) and Cockburn (C).
- Outside of the Perth SD, Ravensthorpe (S) grew at the fastest rate (9.1%) and Mandurah (C) gained the most people (3,200).

Tasmania

- Sorell (M) (2.8%) and Brighton (M) (2.5%) were the fastest growing LGAs in Tasmania.
- The largest growth occurred in Kingborough (M) (630 people) and Launceston (C) (400).

Northern Territory

- Palmerston (C) had the fastest population growth (5.5%) of all Northern Territory LGAs.
- Outside of Darwin SD, the fastest growing LGAs were Central Desert (S) (2.2%), Roper Gulf (S) (2.1%) and Barkly (S) (2.0%).

Australian Capital Territory

- Population growth was largest in northern suburban Canberra, especially in the SLAs of Harrison (1,500 people), Bruce (810 people) and Gungahlin (500 people).

More information about population growth in your area can be found in [Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2007-08](#) (cat. no. 3218.0). The Main Features section of this publication provides an overview of regional trends in Australia's population growth as well as detailed commentary for each state and territory, including maps to assist with interpreting the data. The data can be also be downloaded in an Excel spreadsheet or SuperTABLE, allowing you to conduct analysis at the geographic level of your interest.

For further information about the statistics in the publication, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Andrew Howe on Adelaide (08) 8237 7370.

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Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas



ESTIMATES OF PERSONAL INCOME FOR SMALL AREAS

Personal Income in Australia

States and Territories - Income

States and Territories - Persons by Income Source

Estimates of income using data from the Australian Taxation Office were released in [Estimates of Personal Income for Small Areas](#) (cat. no. 6524.0.55.002) in December 2008. This release contained data for each year from 2001-02 to 2005-06, and included estimates for Local Government Areas and Statistical Local Areas.

These data have been released on the regional boundaries that applied in each year, and so caution should be exercised in making comparisons between years for regions where boundaries have changed. The following provides a summary of the data for Australia and the states and territories.

Personal Income in Australia

From 2001-02 to 2005-06, Australia experienced significant economic prosperity. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in current price terms rose by 31.5%, from \$735,714 million in 2001-02 to \$967,454 million in 2005-06 (Australian System of National Accounts, cat. no. 5204.0). The real net national disposable income per capita grew by 4.2% per year (Australian System of National Accounts, cat. no. 5204.0). Further, the average annual national unemployment rate dropped from 6.4% in 2001 to 5.0% in 2006 (Australian Social Trends, 2008, cat. no. 4102.0).

This national economic prosperity is also reflected in the growth of personal income during this period. The sources of personal income included in these data are Wages and salaries, Own unincorporated business (OUB), Investment, Superannuation and annuities and Other, however the data do not include income from Government pensions and allowances. Australia's average annual growth rate for each income source is presented in Table 1. Over the five year period, income from Investments had the highest growth rate (13.2%) followed by Superannuation and annuities (11.3%). However, growth in OUB income was by far the lowest at 2.7%.

Table 1. ESTIMATED PERSONAL INCOME, Average Annual Growth Rate, 2001-02 to 2005-06

Wages & Salaries %	Own Unincorporated Business %	Investment %	Superannuation & Annuity %	Other Income (a) %	Total Income (a) %
6.9	2.7	13.2	11.3	11.0	7.3

(a) excluding Government Pensions & Allowances

Despite the strong growth rate in Investment income, income from Wages and salaries and OUB together accounted for over 86% of income in each year (Table 2).

Table 2. PROPORTION OF TOTAL INCOME BY INCOME SOURCE, 2001-02 to 2005-06

	Wages & Salaries %	Own Unincorporated Business %	Investment %	Superannuation & Annuity %	Other Income (a) %
2001-02	80.3	8.2	7.9	2.8	0.8
2002-03	80.1	7.8	8.6	2.8	0.8
2003-04	79.8	7.7	8.9	2.8	0.8
2004-05	79.5	7.3	9.4	3.0	0.9
2005-06	79.2	6.9	9.8	3.2	0.9

(a) excluding Government Pensions & Allowances

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While these data show a gradual decline in the proportion of total income from both Wages and salaries and OUB, it is useful to look at the relationship between these two sources of income, as they can both be thought of as 'earned' income. That is, an individual earns income either from employment (for which they earn a wage or salary) or they earn an income from working in their OUB.

Individuals reporting OUB income are generally operating as sole traders or in partnerships. OUB income includes:

- net income (or loss) from business
- distributions from partnerships
- distributions from trusts (primary production)
- net personal services income

OUB income does not include persons in their own incorporated business who tend to pay themselves a salary, as their income is counted under Wage and salary income.

Table 3 shows that over the period 2001-02 to 2005-06 there was a gradual shift away from income from OUB (as a proportion of total 'earned' income) towards income from Wages and salaries.

Table 3. PROPORTIONAL CHANGE IN SELECTED INCOME SOURCES, 2001-02 to 2005-06

	W&S Income \$m	OUB Income \$m	W&S + OUB \$m	W&S %	OUB %
2001-02	272,378.8	27,773.7	300,152.6	90.7	9.3
2002-03	289,389.0	28,053.2	317,442.2	91.2	8.8
2003-04	310,248.8	29,765.7	340,014.5	91.2	8.8
2004-05	333,399.4	30,481.5	363,880.9	91.6	8.4
2005-06	355,868.0	30,937.3	386,805.4	92.0	8.0

The following sections of this article explore income from Wages and salaries and OUB in more detail, including which states/territories have experienced growth in Wage and salary income, and where income from OUB has decreased. Queensland and Western Australia are shown to have had strong growth in both sources of income, while South Australia has experienced declining income from OUB.

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States and Territories - Income

From 2001-02 to 2005-06 income from Wages and salaries increased in all states and territories (Table 4). However there was considerable variation in the amount of growth. For example, in the Northern Territory income from Wages and salaries rose by \$816.2 million, compared to New South Wales (\$25,448.9 million) where the largest growth was recorded.

Table 4. WAGE AND SALARY INCOME (\$m), 2001-02 to 2005-06 (a)

	2001-02 \$m	2002-03 \$m	2003-04 \$m	2004-05 \$m	2005-06 \$m	Change 2001-02 to 2005-06 \$m
New South Wales	97,288.1	102,488.8	109,329.6	116,531.4	122,737.1	25,448.9
Victoria	69,324.5	73,468.5	77,875.5	82,975.1	87,743.4	18,418.9
Queensland	46,924.1	50,632.5	55,323.2	60,399.7	66,144.4	19,220.3
South Australia	18,729.1	19,903.5	21,241.6	22,608.2	23,868.1	5,139.0
Western Australia	25,840.9	27,719.9	30,194.7	33,246.4	36,749.0	10,908.1
Tasmania	5,305.9	5,644.2	6,073.7	6,497.0	6,935.9	1,629.9
Northern Territory	2,788.4	2,901.4	3,088.9	3,405.4	3,604.6	816.2
Australian Capital Territory	6,114.3	6,524.4	7,000.4	7,624.2	7,988.0	1,873.7

(a) excludes Other Territories and unknown postcodes

In terms of the rate of growth, income in all states grew, with Western Australia (9.2%) and Queensland (9.0%) exhibiting the strongest growth during the period (Figure 1). Despite its large growth in actual dollar terms, New South Wales experienced the lowest average annual growth rate at 6.0%. The national average was 6.9%.

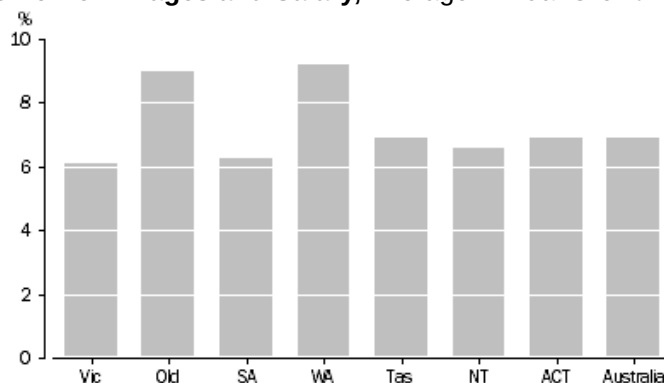
Figure 1. Personal Income from Wages and Salary, Average Annual Growth Rate, 2001-02 to 2005-06

Table 5 shows changes in OUB income between 2001-02 and 2005-06 for each state and territory. Unlike in Wages and salaries, there was a decline in OUB in one state.

While OUB income was higher in 2005-06 than 2001-02 in all states and territories except South Australia,

there was some year to year variation in several other states. In South Australia, OUB income fell during the period by -\$398 million (Table 5).

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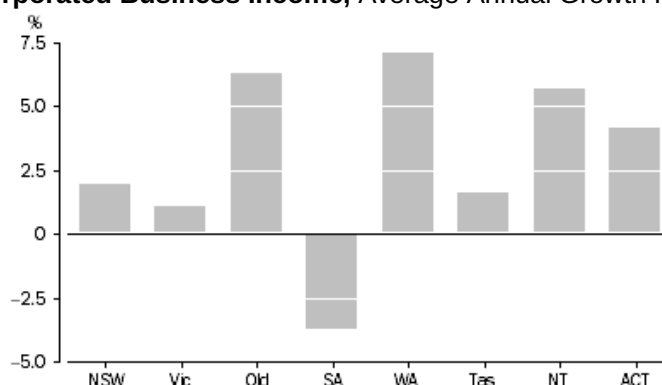
Table 5. OWN UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS INCOME (\$m), 2001-02 to 2005-06 (a)

	2001-02 \$m	2002-03 \$m	2003-04 \$m	2004-05 \$m	2005-06 \$m	Change 2001-02 to 2005-06 \$m
New South Wales	9,244.7	9,315.9	9,961.6	9,989.3	10,021.2	776.5
Victoria	6,529.5	6,119.7	6,548.3	6,775.3	6,816.0	286.5
Queensland	4,945.5	5,096.5	5,684.5	5,988.3	6,305.7	1,360.2
South Australia	2,758.3	2,790.1	2,589.6	2,485.1	2,360.2	-398.0
Western Australia	3,145.8	3,532.3	3,713.3	3,937.4	4,139.4	993.6
Tasmania	624.7	636.8	681.4	706.1	664.5	39.9
Northern Territory	157.1	159.6	172.1	190.5	196.3	39.2
Australian Capital Territory	363.9	395.2	409.3	405.2	429.3	65.4

(a) excludes Other Territories and unknown postcodes

Figure 2 shows that the fastest growing states in OUB income were Queensland and Western Australia, with average annual growth rates of 6.3% and 7.1% respectively. In contrast, South Australia's growth rate was -3.8%.

Figure 2. Own Unincorporated Business Income, Average Annual Growth Rate, 2001-02 to 2005-06



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States and Territories - Persons by Income Source

It has already been identified that there has been a shift in the proportion of income received from OUB to Wages and salaries. One of the advantages of these data are that we can examine the number of persons reporting each source of income. This can help us to determine if the shift is also evident in the labour force.

Table 6 shows that the states recording large increases in the value of Wage and salary income also had strong growth in the number of persons reporting income from Wages and salaries (Queensland 3.9% and Western Australia 3.5%).

Table 6. PERSONS REPORTING INCOME FROM WAGES AND SALARIES, 2001-02 to 2005-06 (a)

	2001-02 psns	2002-03 psns	2003-04 psns	2004-05 psns	2005-06 psns	Change 2001-02 to 2005-06 psns	Average annual growth rate %
New South Wales	2,693,112	2,736,316	2,795,862	2,850,850	2,889,743	196,631	1.8
Victoria	2,051,940	2,097,823	2,136,804	2,184,505	2,230,569	178,629	2.1
Queensland	1,521,601	1,574,888	1,644,951	1,711,519	1,772,041	250,440	3.9
South Australia	612,747	625,354	638,050	651,329	663,196	50,449	2.0
Western Australia	796,977	816,887	845,608	878,270	913,953	116,976	3.5
Tasmania	184,575	189,164	195,235	201,578	205,904	21,329	2.8
Northern Territory	81,364	81,246	82,531	85,765	87,628	6,264	1.9
Australian Capital Territory	158,054	161,368	165,300	168,228	172,566	14,512	2.2

(a) excludes Other Territories and unknown postcodes

On the other hand, South Australia (which had a negative growth rate in OUB income) had a significant fall in the number of persons receiving income from OUB (Table 7).

Table 7. PERSONS REPORTING INCOME FROM OWN UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS, 2001-02 to 2005-06 (a)

	2001-02 psns	2002-03 psns	2003-04 psns	2004-05 psns	2005-06 psns	Change 2001-02 to 2005-06 psns	Average annual growth rate %
New South Wales	437,535	439,079	448,657	444,188	440,839	3,304	0.2
Victoria	324,712	322,882	331,012	330,469	330,626	5,914	0.5
Queensland	271,475	273,920	283,396	284,205	283,100	11,625	1.1
South Australia	115,840	115,846	116,035	112,486	109,763	-6,077	-1.3
Western Australia	151,700	154,357	156,499	155,164	155,499	3,799	0.6
Tasmania	33,007	33,136	34,284	33,772	32,974	-33	0.0
Northern Territory	9,536	9,377	9,542	9,578	9,606	70	0.2
Australian Capital Territory	17,098	17,390	17,405	16,899	16,954	-144	-0.2

(a) excludes Other Territories and unknown postcodes

Data from the Labour Force Survey showed a loss of Own account workers (workers who operate their own economic enterprise and hire no employees) in South Australia during this period, most of whom were employed in the agriculture industry. The number of Own account workers in the agricultural industry in South Australia fell from 17,400 in 2001-02 to 9,500 in 2005-06 (Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

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Economy



ECONOMY

RECENT RELEASES

[Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics](#)

[Persons with Main Source of Income from Own Unincorporated Business](#)

[Information Paper: Regional Labour Force Statistics](#)

REGIONAL WAGE AND SALARY EARNER STATISTICS

[Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, Australia - Data Cubes, 2005-06](#) (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003) was released on 16 April 2009 and presents selected data on estimates of personal income for people whose main (or principal) source of income was Wages and salaries. The publication includes a Main Features section which explores growth in average Wage and salary income from 2001-02 to 2005-06 and provides commentary for each state and territory at the Statistical Local Area (SLA) level.

Although the Australian Capital Territory had the highest average income from Wages and salaries in each year from 2001-02 to 2005-06, Western Australia recorded the highest average annual growth rate (5.3%) over this five year period. The average annual income from Wages and salaries in Australia in 2005-06 was \$42,250 with an annual average growth rate of 4.2% between 2001-02 and 2005-06.

The ten SLAs with the highest average Wage and salary income in 2005-06 were all located within their respective capital city Statistical Divisions. A high proportion of Wage and salary earners in these SLAs were

in Manager and Administrator or Professional occupations.

TOP 10 AVERAGE WAGES AND SALARIES FOR STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS, 2005-06

Statistical Local Area (a)	State	Wage & Salary Earners no.	Total Wages & Salaries \$m	Average Wages & Salaries \$
Mosman (A)	NSW	11,005	1102.4	100,177
Hunter's Hill (A)	NSW	4,716	390.0	82,699
Woollahra (A)	NSW	21,323	1718.0	80,568
Ku-ring-gai (A)	NSW	39,438	2864.9	72,643
North Sydney (A)	NSW	31,368	2235.5	71,266
Peppermint Grove (S)	WA	601	42.5	70,680
Cottesloe (T)	WA	2,873	201.6	70,176
Bayside (C) - Brighton	Vic	13,330	927.9	69,613
Lane Cove (A)	NSW	13,855	932.3	67,293
Leichhardt (A)	NSW	25,098	1672.6	66,645

(a) SLAs with 100 or more Wage and salary earners.

In Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory the SLAs with the highest average income from Wages and salaries were predominantly remote urban towns with a large proportion of people employed in the mining industry. These SLAs were Broadsound (S) (Qld - \$61,932), Roxby Downs (M) (SA - \$57,918) and Groote Eylandt (NT - \$61,295).

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PERSONS WITH MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME FROM OWN UNINCORPORATED BUSINESS

Released on 18 February 2009, [Persons with Main Source of Income from Own Unincorporated Business, Estimates for Small Areas - Data Cubes, 2004-05 to 2005-06](#) (cat. no. 6225.0.55.001) includes estimates of the number of persons whose main or principal source of income comes from their Own unincorporated business (es) for the 2004-05 and 2005-06 financial years. The data includes estimates of the number of persons by sex, the income those persons received from Own unincorporated business (es) and the total income those persons received from all sources.

INFORMATION PAPER: REGIONAL LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS

The ABS has recently released an information paper, [Information Paper: Regional Labour Force Statistics, February 2009](#) (cat. no. 6262.0), providing details of the changes which became effective in February 2009 to a number of existing Labour Force Survey (LFS) Regions used in the dissemination of labour force statistics. The information paper includes concordances for each state and territory, comparing 2006 Regions with 2001 Regions.

Regional data from the Labour Force Survey are available on a monthly basis, generally within one week of the release of [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) in [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery](#) (6291.0.55.001). Detailed industry and occupation labour force data are also available on a quarterly basis in [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

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Population and People



POPULATION AND PEOPLE

RECENT RELEASES

[2011 Census of Population and Housing](#)

Statistician's Report on the Census

Australian Social Trends: Future Population Growth and Ageing

Household Use of Information Technology

FUTURE RELEASES

Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia

Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians

2011 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING

The Census is the largest statistical collection undertaken by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and one of the most important. The next Census, Australia's 16th, is planned for the night of 9 August 2011. The ABS estimates that there will be in excess of 9 million dwellings included in the next Census.

The ABS has four key goals for the 2011 Census. These are to:

- improve coverage
- ensure the relevance of the Census data to users and providers
- use resources effectively and efficiently
- protect the privacy of the public

In preparation for the 2011 Census, the ABS is seeking the advice and support of community focused and government organisations. The [2011 Census of Population and Housing Local and Regional Engagement Strategy](#) (cat. no. 2911.0.55.001) discusses how your organisation can be involved. Contact details for the Census Engagement Officer in each ABS office are also provided.

More information on the Census can be found in the [2011 Census home page](#).

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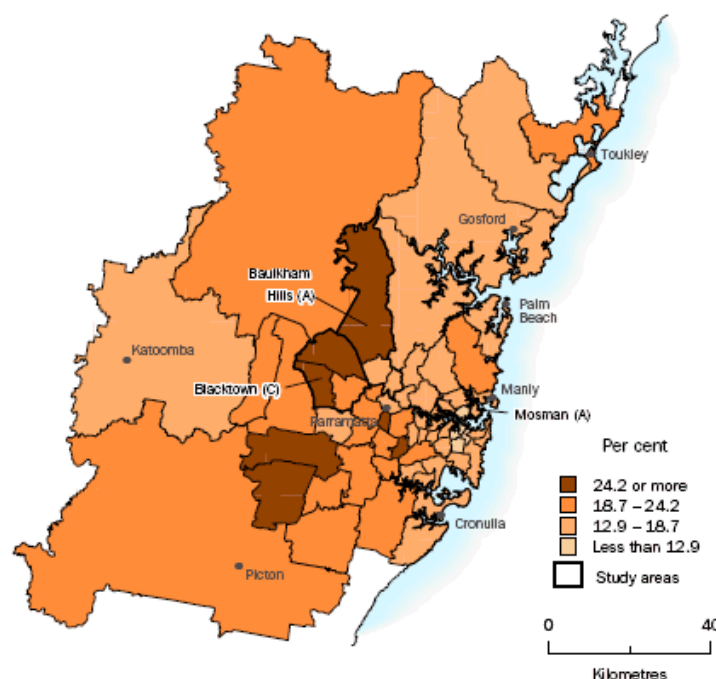
STATISTICIAN'S REPORT ON THE CENSUS

Released on 29 January 2009, [A Picture of the Nation: the Statistician's Report on the 2006 Census](#) (cat. no. 2070.0) presents statistical analysis and commentary on the results of the 2006 Census. It also incorporates information from previous Censuses, presenting stories about contemporary society and trends that affect the lives of Australian people. The overviews and articles are organised into eight chapters, representing the following broad areas of interest: population; cultural diversity; living arrangements; community; education; work; economic resources; and housing.

The report demonstrates the many strengths of Census data, including its ability to provide information on small population groups and small geographic areas. For example, the feature article 'Families living with young children: A Sydney case study' (Chapter 3 - Living Arrangements) uses the Local Government Areas of Baulkham Hills, Blacktown and Mosman as examples to explore various population characteristics associated with families living with young children.

An example of the information in the report is shown in the following map from Chapter 3:

People in families with young children(a): Proportion of the total population in Statistical Local Areas, Sydney Statistical Division, 2006



(a) A family with young children refers to any family that includes at least one child under the age of 5.

The report also provides an overview of Australia's population (Chapter 1), including information on population growth in Australian capital cities and large urban centres, while Chapter 6 (Work) contains unemployment and labour force participation rates in selected Statistical Subdivisions. Chapter 7 (Economic Resources) contains a feature article 'Workers' income in selected regions' using the Statistical Subdivisions of North Wimmera (Vic), Greater Dandenong (Vic), Lower North Sydney (NSW) and the Statistical Division of Pilbara (WA) to examine some specific characteristics of the workforce in those regions.

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AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL TRENDS: FUTURE POPULATION GROWTH AND AGEING

Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0) is a quarterly publication that presents statistical analysis and commentary on a wide range of current social issues. The latest edition was released on 25 March 2009 and contains the feature article 'Future Population Growth and Ageing'. This article explores the future growth, distribution and age structure of the Australian population using projected population estimates based on a range of assumptions about migration, fertility and life expectancy.

Over the next 50 years, Queensland and Western Australia are expected to experience the most rapid population growth due to the relatively high rates of both overseas and internal migration to these states. Both states are expected to more than double their populations by 2056, with Queensland predicted to overtake Victoria as the second most populous state in 2050.

When compared with capital cities, non-capital city areas typically have significantly higher projected proportions of people aged 65 years and over, as many older people retire to coastal areas. This is reflected in the old age dependency ratio (the ratio of people aged 65 years and over to those aged 15-64), with there being a higher number of working aged people to the elderly in capital cities when compared to non-capital city areas.

To find out more, see the article 'Future Population Growth and Ageing' in the March edition of Australian Social Trends.

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HOUSEHOLD USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Released on 18 December 2008, Household Use of Information Technology, Australia, 2007-08 (cat. no.

8146.0) presents a range of information about the use of Information Technology in Australian households. It includes information about access to computers and the Internet, type of Internet connection, and various socioeconomic characteristics associated with the use of Information Technology.

Key findings from the publication include:

- In 2007-08, 67% of Australian households had home Internet access and 75% of households had access to a computer.
- The number of households with a Broadband Internet connection increased by 22% from the previous year.
- The Australian Capital Territory had the highest proportion of Broadband Internet connections (68% of all households), while Tasmania (39%) and South Australia (42%) were the lowest.
- Metropolitan areas had considerably higher proportions of Broadband Internet connections (57%) than other areas (43%).

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POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX, REGIONS OF AUSTRALIA

Scheduled for release on 11 August 2009, Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia, 2008 (cat. no. 3235.0) will present preliminary estimates of the resident populations of areas of Australia as at 30 June 2008, based on Statistical Local Areas (SLAs), Local Government Areas (LGAs), Statistical Subdivisions (SSDs) and Statistical Divisions (SDs), according to the 2008 edition of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC).

EXPERIMENTAL ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS, ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AUSTRALIANS

Scheduled for release on 8 September 2009, Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991-2021 (cat. no. 3238.0) is a five yearly publication which will contain experimental estimates and projections of the Indigenous population based on the most recent Census for states and territories by five-year age groups and sex. Experimental Indigenous estimates at June 2006 will be included for capital city and balance of state, remoteness areas, major population regions and section of state. Indigenous region estimates at June 2006 and projections to 2016 will also be provided.

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Industry



INDUSTRY

RECENT RELEASES

[Australian Wine and Grape Industry.](#)

[Motor Vehicle Census](#)

[ABS Agriculture Statistics Collection Strategy.](#)

AUSTRALIAN WINE AND GRAPE INDUSTRY

[Australian Wine and Grape Industry, 2008](#) (cat. no. 1329.0) was released on 29 January 2009 and presents a statistical compendium of Australia's wine and grape industry. This publication includes information on: area of vines and production of grapes by wine region; wine production and grapes crushed by wine region; structure of the wine manufacturing industry; inventories of wine owned by winemakers at 30 June; brandy

and grape spirit production; domestic wine sales; exports and imports of wine; price indexes of grapes and wine; consumption of wine; and world comparisons.

Key findings from the publication include:

- South Australia continues to be the largest winemaking state in Australia, accountable for 43% of the total national wine grape crush, followed by New South Wales (23%) and Victoria (23%).
- In each of these states, the regions with the highest percentage of grape production for wine-making were Lower Murray, SA (accounting for 21% of grape production in Australia), Big Rivers, NSW (23%) and North West Victoria (16%).
- On average, Victoria uses the most water per hectare to irrigate their vineyards (4.1 megalitres), followed by NSW (3.8 megalitres) and SA (2.7 megalitres).
- The most common watering method continues to be drip or micro spray, with 81% of the total irrigated area watered using this method. The proportion of area irrigated by other spray types in Victoria (25%) and the use of watering by furrow or flood in NSW (17%) are still significant.

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MOTOR VEHICLE CENSUS

The Motor Vehicle Census (MVC) is an annual collection of data on registered vehicles in Australia. The ABS compiles motor vehicle registration statistics from data made available by various state and territory motor vehicle registration authorities. Statistics are collected on passenger vehicles, campervans, light commercial vehicles, all types of trucks, buses and motorcycles.

Results from the latest MVC were released on 14 January 2009 and can be found in [Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 Mar 2008](#) (cat. no. 9309.0). The publication presents statistics relating to vehicles which were registered at 31 March 2008 with a motor vehicle registration authority, including information on the vehicle type, year of manufacture and the make and model of the vehicle. Data are available at the postcode level for all states and territories in Australia.

Key findings from the publication include:

- As at 31 March 2008, the total number of motor vehicles registered in Australia rose 3.5% over the past 12 months to 15.3 million.
- Motorcycle registrations had the highest growth rate compared to any other vehicle, recording a growth rate of 10.8% in the last year.
- Over the past five years, Queensland (4.5%) and Western Australia (4.0%) have recorded the highest average annual growth rates in motor vehicle registrations.
- In contrast, South Australia and Victoria had the lowest average annual growth rates in motor vehicle registrations (1.8% and 2.3% respectively).

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ABS AGRICULTURE STATISTICS COLLECTION STRATEGY

The ABS has recently released three information papers following a review of the ABS Agricultural Survey Program. These papers outline the proposed changes to the program aimed at improving the statistical information base relevant to agriculture and natural resource management statistics. The information papers can be found in the [Agriculture Statistics Collection Strategy](#) (cat. no. 7105.0) publication on the ABS website.

The first paper, [ABS Agriculture Statistics Collection Strategy - 2008-09 and beyond 2008-09](#) presents the ABS' understanding of the key agricultural policy issue imperatives and areas of priority for statistical data development and outlines the proposed changes to the future ABS Agricultural Survey program. The second paper, [ABS Agriculture Statistics Collection Strategy - 2008-09 and beyond 2009](#) outlines the direction and content of the 2008-09 Agricultural Survey, while the third and final paper, [ABS Agriculture Statistics Collection Strategy - 2008-09 and beyond 2009-10](#) focuses on the proposed strategy for the 2009-10 Agricultural Survey, the 2010-11 Agricultural Census, and subsequent ABS Agricultural Surveys and Censuses.

The ABS invites providers and users of agricultural statistics to comment on the proposed collection strategy, with a particular focus on the 2010-11 Agricultural Census collection. To provide feedback, email us at agriculture.statistics@abs.gov.au.

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Environment and Energy



ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

RECENT RELEASES

[Land Management and Farming in Australia](#)

[Water Use on Australian Farms](#)

LAND MANAGEMENT AND FARMING IN AUSTRALIA

The first edition of [Land Management and Farming in Australia](#) (cat. no. 4627.0) was released on 29 May 2009. This new publication presents information on a variety of management practices being adopted by Australian farmers including cropping and pasture management, soil management, fertiliser use and natural environment conservation protection. The publication also includes data on the types of adverse seasonal conditions experienced in 2007-08 and the farm management responses found to be effective in dealing with these conditions. Data are presented at the Australia and State level, as well as for each of the 56 Natural Resource Management regions across Australia.

WATER USE ON AUSTRALIAN FARMS

Released on 26 May 2009, [Water Use on Australian Farms, 2007-08](#) (cat. no. 4618.0) presents a range of information relating to irrigation practices on Australian farms. This includes data on the type and area of crops irrigated and the volume of water applied. Data are available at the Australia, State and Natural Resource Management region levels as well as for the Murray Darling Basin. The publication will also include some previous estimates for 2002-03 to 2006-07.

Other News and Contacts



OTHER NEWS AND CONTACTS

[Australian Standard Geographical Classification](#)

[Community Indicators Summit](#)

[ABS Outpostings](#)

[EasyData](#)

[Small Area Estimates of Household Wealth](#)

[NSW State and Regional Indicators](#)

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AUSTRALIAN STANDARD GEOGRAPHICAL CLASSIFICATION

The latest edition of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (cat. no. 1216.0) is due to be released on 16 September 2009. The ASGC is a classification system designed and maintained by the ABS which divides Australia into geographical areas for the purpose of collecting and disseminating statistics. The publication will provide details of the statistical geography effective at 1 July 2009, including maps of Statistical Divisions, Statistical Subdivisions and Statistical Local Areas.

In 2011 the ABS will replace the ASGC with a new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). For further information refer to the article '[ABS to Replace Statistical Geography in 2011](#)' in the December edition of What's New in Regional Statistics.

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COMMUNITY INDICATORS SUMMIT

In July 2009, the ABS is holding the [Community Indicators Summit 09](#) in Brisbane involving participants from around Australia. The Summit will gather insights into a more coordinated, coherent and consistent approach to the development of indicators relating to community health, well being, sustainability and other social issues.

The Summit is being held in association with the OECD-hosted '[Global Project on Measuring the Progress of Societies](#)'. The summit outcomes will be presented at the [3rd World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge and Policy](#) 'Charting Progress, Building Visions, Improving Life' which is being held in Busan, Korea from October 27-30, 2009 (www.oecd.org), and is a key milestone in the Global Project.

Developing a more holistic approach to measuring societal progress is gaining impetus around the world and takes into account social and environmental concerns as well as economic ones. The demand for indicators to measure progress at a community level has highlighted the need for a coordinated approach. The Summit will contribute to the process and application of measuring societal progress in Australia, thus improving outcomes for all generations. Practical interactive workshops on the themes of Measuring Australia's Progress, using Community Indicators for Better Local Government, and Wellbeing in Indigenous Communities will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss current issues facing the development and use of Community Indicators, and to contribute ideas for the future.

Representatives from each of the states will be able to share ideas, strategies and contribute to the development of emerging requirements in measuring Australia's progress along with other community indicator practitioners. Speakers at the Summit include:

- **Jon Hall** (OECD Global Project on Measuring the Progress of Societies)
- **Peter Crossman** (Assistant Under Treasurer and QLD Government Statistician)
- **Dr Lance Emerson** (CEO, Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth)
- **David Tune** (Associate Secretary (Domestic Policy) Prime Minister and Cabinet)
- **Leigh Gatt** (New Zealand Big Cities Project)

Visit www.nss.gov.au for more information on the [Community Indicators Summit](#) and the OECD's [Global Project on Measuring the Progress of Societies](#) or e-mail inquiries@nss.gov.au.

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ABS OUTPOSTINGS

Does your agency require assistance to address its statistical needs? Have you ever considered using an ABS outposting?

The ABS provides both short and long-term outpostings to organisations who have a need for statistical

assistance. Outpostings are tailored to suit the needs of the agency in which the ABS officers have been deployed. An outposted officer is one of the best ways the ABS has to provide statistical support to agencies and other organisations.

An ABS officer has recently completed a six month outposting at the School for Social Policy and Research at Charles Darwin University. The outposted officer worked primarily with the Population Studies Group to investigate population mobility in the Northern Territory. They were able to provide support to researchers in the use and understanding of ABS data as well as assisting with statistical analysis and preparing research papers and reports. Not only did this outposting have many benefits for the host agency, but also provided an opportunity to enhance and build new relationships between both agencies.

If you are considering the use of an ABS outposted officer or would like further information about ABS outpostings, email us at client.services@abs.gov.au.

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EASYDATA

EasyData is a new website developed by the South Australian Department of Trade and Economic Development, with the assistance of the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Local Government Association of SA. It provides 'easy-to-use' data about social, environmental and economic indicators at Local Government and State Regional levels. The data will be updated regularly, providing a simple tool to track changes over time. EasyData allows users to save customised regions and indicator sets, which makes it perfect for program planning and evaluation, grant writing and policy decisions.

The EasyData website (www.southaustralia.biz/EasyData) was launched on 18 June, 2009.

SMALL AREA ESTIMATES OF HOUSEHOLD WEALTH

The Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE) have recently released an information paper which presents new statistical information relating to household wealth at a small area scale. The paper also explores the relationship between wealth and income for Australia's cities and regions.

The information paper is accompanied by BITRE's Household wealth database, which includes detailed regional estimates of household wealth and its components. Chapter 11 of the information paper includes regional case studies of Augusta-Margaret River (WA), Gladstone (Qld) and Tasmania which illustrate how the database can be used to profile a region's wealth and wellbeing or to help understand the processes of regional economic growth.

For further information, see [Information Paper 63 - Household wealth](#) on the BITRE website.

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NSW STATE AND REGIONAL INDICATORS

The second edition of [NSW State and Regional Indicators](#) (cat. no. 1338.1) was released on 21 April 2009. This quarterly publication provides a summary of NSW statistical information at State and/or regional level. Included in each chapter is a commentary on statistical highlights which provides analysis and graphs on selected indicators. There are several chapters updated each quarter. New topics in the latest release are: Family and Community, Household Economic Resources and Crime and Justice. Chapters on Population, Education and Training, Housing and Transport will be updated for the next release in July 2009. The publication also includes a Statistics News NSW section which contains short articles on new releases and other events which may be of interest to NSW clients.

STATE AND REGIONAL INDICATORS, VICTORIA

[State and Regional Indicators, Victoria](#) (cat. no. 1367.2) is a quarterly publication that contains recently released statistical information about Victoria. Data is presented on a range of economic, social and environmental measures and is sourced from ABS and non-ABS collections. The publication includes data at various geographic classification levels including Victoria, Melbourne and the Balance of Victoria down to the Local Government Area level for some series.

The most recent issue (March 2009) was released on 14 May 2009 and contains the feature article '[Measuring Victoria's Population](#)'. This article explains how the ABS derives Estimated Resident Populations

(ERP), including the difference in the methodology used for national and state ERPs, and for ERPs for geographic areas below the state level.

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TASMANIAN STATE AND REGIONAL INDICATORS

Tasmanian State and Regional Indicators (cat. no. 1307.6) is a quarterly publication that provides a summary of Tasmanian statistical information on a wide range of topics. The latest edition was released on 30 April 2009 and contains updated information on three topics (Family and Community, Household Economic Resources and Housing and Construction) as well as the feature article 'What is statistical literacy and why is it important to be statistically literate?'.

Each topic presents summary commentary and includes graphs, maps and tables of data. Excel workbooks with more detailed data at state, regional and local government levels are linked to each topic and some Census and regional tables are included.

The next edition of Tasmanian State and Regional Indicators is due to be released in July 2009 and will include updates to the Population, Education and Transport topics.

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'What's New in Regional Statistics' is produced by the Rural and Regional Statistics National Centre of the ABS. This newsletter has been prepared as part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Regional Statistics Program, to improve the availability of regional and small area data by leading the development of regional statistics and co-ordinating their dissemination. More information is available on the [ABS Regional Statistics theme page](#).

Please send your comments or queries regarding this newsletter to regional.statistics@abs.gov.au or telephone (08) 8237 7350.

If you would like further information or data, please contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or e-mail client.services@abs.gov.au.

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About this Release

'What's New in Regional Statistics' is a biannual newsletter about regional and small area statistics. It includes topical articles and reviews of relevant ABS publications. 'What's New in Regional Statistics' highlights developments in statistics relevant to regions, including metropolitan, urban, non-urban and rural areas, and other information of likely interest to researchers, policy makers and other users of small area data.

Interested readers are invited to visit the Regional theme page on the ABS website for links to other related information.